IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Olaf Bienert

Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of this application or before the mailing of an Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last, and therefore is considered timely under 37 CFR §1.97(b).

According to the terms of 37 CFR §1.97(g), this Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25. This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR 1.56(c).

A list of ten (10) references cited by the applicant is enclosed on the PTO/SB/08A (substitute PTO-1449) form, which is attached and made a part thereof. US cite number 3, and Foreign Patent Document cite numbers 5 and 6 were cited in the Search Report for PCT International Application PCT/EP2005/003173, which is the parent of this national stage application. Foreign Patent Document cite numbers 1-4 were cited by the Examiner in German Patent Application DE 10 2004

015 313.2 (which was a basis of the priority claim of the subject PCT application). US Patent cite number 1, US 3,937,543 A, is the equivalent of Foreign Patent Document cite number 2, DE 25 38 766 A1; US Patent cite number 2, US 5,238,444 A, is the equivalent of Foreign Patent Document cite number 3, DE 41 25 949 C2; and US Patent cite number 4, US 6,350,155 B1, is the equivalent of Foreign Patent Document cite number 5, DE 199 12 000 A1. There are no English translations or counterparts available for the German references. There are no English translations or counterparts available for Foreign Patent Document cite numbers 1, 4, and 6.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement, and is inclusive of the best information known to the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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